

# CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

## TWENTY SIXTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. R-24-3 ENACTMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSORED BY: Tammy Fiebelkorn, Nichole L. Rogers

1 RESOLUTION

2 DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO CREATE A PROGRAM FOR THE  
3 DISPOSAL OF HUMAN FECES ON PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF  
4 ALBUQUERQUE.

5 WHEREAS, City Ordinance section 9-10-1-3 defines “infectious waste”  
6 as: “Solid waste that carries a probable risk of transmitting disease to  
7 humans, including but not limited to:” human pathological wastes, human and  
8 body fluid wastes including blood and blood components, body fluids, and  
9 biological wastes; and

10 WHEREAS, the intricate and interconnected design of the human body  
11 necessitates the vital and indispensable function of defecation, serving as a  
12 fundamental process for the maintenance of overall health and physiological  
13 equilibrium; and

14 WHEREAS, the 2023 Point in Time Count indicates there are at least 3,842  
15 unhoused individuals in the City, yet the City currently only operates one 24/7  
16 year-round public toilet: a Portland Loo at the Uptown Transit Station; and

17 WHEREAS, the challenges faced by individuals experiencing  
18 homelessness are compounded by the inherent difficulty in accessing basic  
19 human necessities, such as restroom facilities; and

20 WHEREAS, in the last calendar year, the 311 Community Contact Center  
21 has been contacted nearly 400 times to resolve issues involving human feces;  
22 and

23 WHEREAS current City Policy states that it is a resident or business  
24 owner’s responsibility to clean their private property, including sidewalks and  
25 alleys, including the removal of human feces when present; and

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1       WHEREAS, according to the National Library of Medicine, enteroviruses,  
2 hepatitis A virus, rotaviruses, parvovirus-like viruses, astroviruses,  
3 caliciviruses, adenoviruses and coronaviruses may be present in human  
4 feces; and

5       WHEREAS, the New Mexico Department of Health has issued multiple  
6 Health Alerts regarding ongoing drug-resistant Shigella infections in the  
7 Albuquerque area, mainly affecting the homeless population, that can be  
8 transmitted through contact with human feces; and

9       WHEREAS, the presence of human feces in public spaces poses a  
10 significant health and sanitation risk to the community; and

11       WHEREAS, human feces poses a significant risk to water quality when  
12 washed into storm drains or waterways

13       WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management  
14 also notes that properly disposing of human feces is important to avoid  
15 polluting water sources, minimizing the chances of spreading disease, and  
16 maximizing the rate of decomposition; and

17       WHEREAS, failure to promptly address and rectify this matter may result in  
18 public health hazards and damage to the community's reputation; and

19       WHEREAS, to protect the public health and general welfare of residents,  
20 The City desires to create a program for the disposal of human feces on all  
21 properties in the City limits.

22       BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY  
23 OF ALBUQUERQUE:

24       SECTION 1. The City Administration shall develop and administer a  
25 program to collect feces that is believed to come from a human, including:

- 26       A. Engaging with and supervising a contractor who specializes in  
27 removing and disposing of potentially hazardous material;  
28       B. Directing the contractor to clean up human feces, on both public and  
29 private property;  
30       C. Coordinating with 311 to create a mechanism through which residents  
31 can report human feces and the contractor can then be dispatched to  
32 the location; and

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- 1 D. In conjunction with the contractor, track where human feces is found
- 2 and the number of instances the contractor cleans up such waste.
- 3 SECTION 2. The following appropriation is made from the available fund
- 4 balance program from Fiscal Year 2023:
- 5 GENERAL FUND – 110
- 6 Environmental Health Department
- 7 Contract to administer an infectious waste program \$100,000
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# FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

TITLE: DIRECTING THE ADMINISTRATION TO CREATE A PROGRAM FOR THE DISPOSAL OF HUMAN FECES ON PROPERTIES IN THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE.

R: O:  
FUND: 110  
DEPT: EHD

- ☐ No measurable fiscal impact is anticipated, i.e., no impact on fund balance over and above existing appropriations.
- ☒ (If Applicable) The estimated fiscal impact (defined as impact over and above existing appropriations) of this legislation is as follows:

	2024	Fiscal Years 2025	2026	Total
Base Salary/Wages				-
Fringe Benefits at				-
Subtotal Personnel	-	-	-	-
Operating Expenses	100,000	-	-	100,000
Property	-	-	-	-
Indirect Costs	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000
<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated revenues not affected				
<input type="checkbox"/> Estimated revenue impact				
Revenue from program				0
Amount of Grant		-	-	
City Cash Match				
City Inkind Match				
City IDOH	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

These estimates do not include any adjustment for inflation.

\* Range if not easily quantifiable.

Number of Positions created

**COMMENTS:** This appropriates \$100,000 from the General Fund from the available fund balance to the Environmental Health Department for a professional services contract to respond to constituent calls to pick up human feces.

## COMMENTS ON NON-MONETARY IMPACTS TO COMMUNITY/CITY GOVERNMENT:

This service is necessary to reduce the spread of viruses that are transmitted through contact with human feces.

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CITY ECONOMIST